



Department of Defense DIRECTIVE

NUMBER 5132.12

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USD(P)

SUBJECT: Consolidations and Reductions of U.S. Defense Attache Offices (DAOs)
and Security Assistance Organizations (SAOs)

References: (a) DoD Directive C-5105.32, "Defense Attache System (U)," March 23, 1973
(b) Public Law 87-195, "Foreign Assistance Act of 1961," September 4, 1961
(c) DoD 5105.38-M, "Security Assistance Management Manual," October 1988
(d) [DoD Directive 5132.3](#), "DoD Policy and Responsibilities Relating to Security Assistance," March 10, 1981
(e) [DoD Directive 5105.38](#), "Defense Security Assistance Agency," August 10, 1978

1. PURPOSE

This Directive establishes policy, assigns responsibilities, and prescribes procedures relating to the reduction in DoD manning of diplomatic missions, including the consolidation of U.S. DAOs and DoD SAOs.

2. APPLICABILITY

This Directive applies to the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Military Departments, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Joint Staff, the Unified and Specified Commands, the Defense Agencies, and the DoD Field Activities (hereafter referred to collectively as "the DoD Components").

3. DEFINITIONS

3.1. Defense Attache Office (DAO). A DAO is a DoD organization established as part of a U.S. diplomatic mission, through which the mission of the Defense Attache System (DAS), operated by the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), is accomplished. From time-to-time, the Secretary or Deputy Secretary of Defense may direct the assignment or attachment of other Military detachments or elements to a DAO. Defense Attache (DATT) functions are described in DoD Directive C-5105.32, (reference (a)).

3.2. Security Assistance Organization (SAO). An SAO is a DoD organization, regardless of actual title, located overseas with assigned responsibilities for carrying out the security assistance management functions under Pub. L. 87-195, Section 515 (reference (b)). "SAO" is a generic term for organizations with various titles such as United States Military Group, Office of Defense Cooperation, Military Liaison Office, Joint United States Military Assistance Group, and Office of Military Cooperation. SAO functions are described in DoD 5105.38-M (reference (c)).

4. ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT

4.1. DAOs assigned security assistance responsibilities shall remain organizational elements of the DIA and shall execute the missions specified by reference (a).

4.2. The DAO, in carrying out its security assistance responsibilities, where assigned, in accordance with this Directive, shall comply with DoD Directive 5132.3 (reference (d)), DoD Directive 5105.38 (reference (e)), DoD 5105.38-M (reference (c)), and other DoD and Unified Command Directives and Instructions as may be appropriate.

4.3. With respect to security assistance responsibilities, the channels of communications, relationships, and functions prescribed by reference (d) shall be observed.

4.4. Organization and management responsibility for any other DoD element undergoing reduction will not be changed by this Directive.

5. POLICY

It is DoD policy that:

5.1. When deemed to be in the best interests of the Department of Defense, reductions and consolidations shall be made in recognition of the requirement to ensure that DoD national security missions are fully supported, while minimizing the numbers of DoD personnel assigned to duty in foreign countries as members of diplomatic missions; the responsibilities and authorities of U.S. Chiefs of Mission (COMs) in regard to the size, structure, and organization of diplomatic posts; and the existence of different management structures for the administration of DoD personnel under the cognizance of the COMs abroad.

5.2. DAOs are permanent DoD offices assigned to U.S. diplomatic missions. Primary DoD responsibility for the administration of DoD security assistance programs and related activities in foreign countries shall be assigned to DAOs when, in accordance with Pub. L. 87-195, Section 515 (reference (b)), it is determined by the Secretary or Deputy Secretary of Defense that a separate SAO is not warranted.

6. RESPONSIBILITIES

6.1. The Under Secretary of Defense for Policy (USD(P)), in coordination with the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Command, Control, Communications, and Intelligence (ASD(C3I)), shall act for the Secretary or Deputy Secretary of Defense on all matters concerning proposals to reduce DoD personnel in diplomatic missions.

6.2. The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Command, Control, Communications, and Intelligence (ASD(C3I)) shall:

6.2.1. Ensure that DAOs that have security assistance responsibility carry them out in accordance with the policies established by the USD(P).

6.2.2. Provide recommendations concerning proposals to reduce the manning of DoD personnel assigned to diplomatic missions, including the consolidation of SAOs and DAOs.

6.3. The Secretaries of the Military Departments and the Heads of the Other DoD Components shall provide such support and assistance to DAO/SAO organizations as may be necessary for carrying out their missions.

6.4. The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff shall:

6.4.1. Monitor the implementation of DAO/SAO consolidations.

6.4.2. Provide recommendations concerning proposals to reduce the manning of DoD personnel assigned to diplomatic missions, including the consolidation of SAOs and DAOs.

6.5. The Commanders of the Unified Commands with area security assistance responsibilities shall:

6.5.1. Provide recommendations concerning proposals to reduce manning of DoD personnel assigned to diplomatic missions within their respective geographic areas, including the consolidation of SAOs and DAOs.

6.5.2. Provide recommendations on staffing requirements for security assistance personnel assigned to DAOs.

6.5.3. Provide technical assistance, manpower and fiscal accountability, training, administrative and logistic support, and personnel management for security assistance augmentees to the DAO.

6.5.4. Coordinate personnel actions taken on security assistance augmentees with the DATT to whom the individuals are attached.

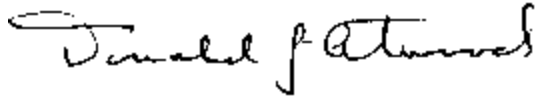
7. PROCEDURES

7.1. The USD(P) may approve proposals for the consolidation of DAOs and SAOs and related matters, after coordination of the proposals with the ASD(C3I), the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and other appropriate officials of the Department of Defense.

7.2. In those cases where the DAO is required to commit one-half work year or more to the security assistance function, the cognizant CINC, in coordination with the COM and DIA, shall submit a joint manpower request to establish an authorization to augment the DAO with personnel supported and funded by security assistance resources.

8. EFFECTIVE DATE AND IMPLEMENTATION

This Directive is effective immediately. The Under Secretary of Defense for Policy may issue such instructions as may be necessary to implement this Directive.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald J. Atwood". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D" and "A".

Donald J. Atwood
Deputy Secretary of Defense